



**Maximum  
Levels  
for  
Contaminants  
in  
Public  
Water  
Supplies**

**ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC HEALTH**

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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has established maximum levels for many contaminants in public water supplies. A public water supply is one that provides piped water for human consumption, and has at least 15 service connections or regularly serves at least 25 people daily at least 60 days per year. A public water system can be a community water system (CWS) or a non-community water system (NCWS). A CWS serves year-round residents (a permanent residential population). An NCWS serves a non-residential population. An NCWS can also be further classified as transient if it serves a different population each day (such as a highway rest stop, a restaurant, etc.) or non-transient if it serves the same population each day (such as a school or factory).

The maximum contaminant levels should not be exceeded in any community or non-transient, non-community public water supply. These standards are enforced through state and federal regulations. Even though the regulations cannot be enforced at private supplies, the principle inherent in adopting these limits for community and non-transient, non-community public water supplies, that the same persons consume the water every day, also applies to persons who obtain their water supplies from private wells. For further information concerning sampling or the health effects of a contaminant found in your drinking water, contact your local health department, the regional office of the Illinois Department of Public Health closest to you or the

Illinois Department of Public Health  
Division of Environmental Health  
525 West Jefferson Street  
Springfield, IL 62761  
217-782-5830 or TTY (hearing impaired use only) 800-547-0466

To sample your well for some or all of these contaminants, a list of laboratories certified to perform these analyses can be obtained from

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
1021 North Grand Avenue East  
PO Box 19276, MC #13  
Springfield, IL 62794-9276  
217-782-0610 or TTY (hearing impaired use only) 217-782-9143

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<b>Substance</b>	<b>Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)</b>
<b>Inorganics</b>	<b>parts per million</b>

Arsenic .....	0.05
Antimony .....	0.006
Asbestos .....	7 million fibers/liter
Barium.....	2.0
Beryllium .....	0.004
Cadmium.....	0.005
Chromium .....	0.1
Copper* .....	1.3
Cyanide .....	0.2
Fluoride.....	4.0
Iron .....	1.0
Lead*.....	0.015
Manganese .....	0.15
Mercury.....	0.002
Nickel.....	0.1
Nitrate .....	10.0 as nitrogen
Nitrite .....	1.0 as nitrogen
Selenium .....	0.05
Silver .....	0.05
Sulfate .....	400 (Proposed)
Thallium.....	0.002
Turbidity.....	1.0 (NTU)+
Zinc .....	5.0

+NTU=Nephelometric Turbidity Units

\*Measured in 90% of the samples at consumer's taps

### Organics

Aldicarb.....	0.003
Aldicarb sulfone.....	0.002
Aldicarb sulfoxide.....	0.004
Aldrin .....	0.001
Atrazine.....	0.003
Benzene.....	0.005
Benzo (a) pyrene.....	0.0002
Carbofuran .....	0.04
Carbon Tetrachloride .....	0.005
Chlordane .....	0.002
Dalapon .....	0.2
Dibromochloropropane (DBCP).....	0.0002
o-Dichlorobenzene .....	0.6
p-Dichlorobenzene .....	0.075

Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT)..... 0.05

Dichloromethane (Methylene Chloride)..... 0.005

<b>Substance</b>	<b>Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)</b>
<b>Organics (con't)</b>	<b>parts per million</b>
1, 2-Dichloroethane .....	0.005
1, 1-Dichloroethylene .....	0.007
cis-1, 2-Dichloroethylene.....	0.07
trans-1, 2-Dichloroethylene .....	0.1
2, 4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid (2, 4-D).....	0.07
1, 2-Dichloropropane .....	0.005
Dieldrin .....	0.001
Dinoseb .....	0.007
Di (2-ethylhexyl) adipate.....	0.40
Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate.....	0.006
Diquat.....	0.02
Endothall.....	0.1
Endrin.....	0.002
Ethylbenzene.....	0.7
Ethylene Dibromide.....	0.00005
Glyphosate .....	0.7
Oxamyl (Vydate).....	0.2
Heptachlor.....	0.0004
Heptachlor Epoxide .....	0.0002
Hexachlorobenzene.....	0.001
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene.....	0.05
Lindane .....	0.0002
Methoxychlor .....	0.04
Monochlorobenzene.....	0.1
Pentachlorophenol.....	0.001
Picloram .....	0.5
Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB).....	0.0005
Simazine.....	0.004
Styrene .....	0.1
2, 3, 7, 8-TCDD (Dioxin) .....	3 x 10 <sup>-8</sup>
Tetrachloroethylene.....	0.005
Toluene.....	1.0
Total Trihalomethanes .....	0.10
Trichloroethylene.....	0.005
1, 2, 4-Trichlorobenzene.....	0.07
1, 1, 2-Trichloroethane.....	0.005
1, 1, 1-Trichloroethane.....	0.20
2, 4, 5-Trichlorophenoxypropionic Acid .....	0.05
(2, 4, 5-TP or Silvex)	
Toxaphene .....	0.003
Vinyl Chloride.....	0.002
Xylenes .....	10.0